

# Working Together to Meet the Needs of High Acuity Youth: Lessons Learned from a Local Perspective



**Chesterfield - Colonial Heights  
Social Services**

Shana Brown, Family Services Supervisor

Danika Briggs, LCSW, Assistant Director

Kiva Rogers, LCSW, Director

# Agenda

- I. Introductions
- II. Case Scenario
- III. System of Care
- IV. State/Local Response
  - State Go Team
  - Local Rapid Response
- V. Lessons Learned

# Introductions

# Case Scenario

# Our Youth in Need

17-Year-Old Male

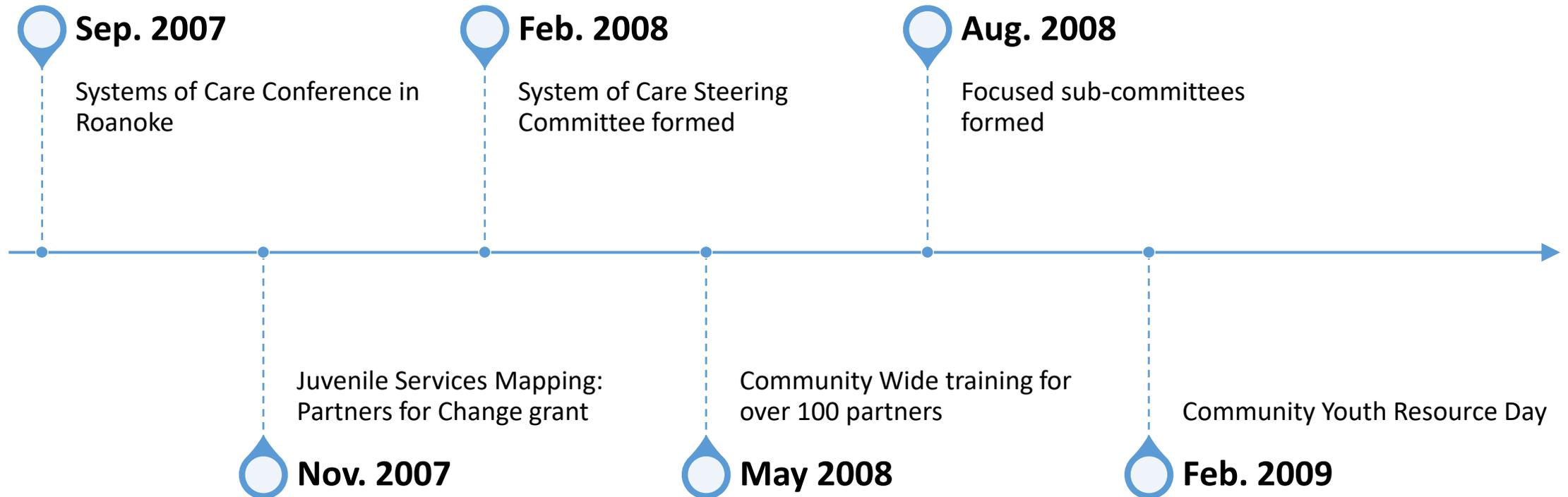
Court Ordered Restrictions

ASD/Intellectual Disability

Relief of Custody

# System of Care: Historical Context

# Developing a System of Care in Chesterfield County



# Agencies Involved

- Public Schools
- Social Services
- Community Services Board
- Court Services Unit
- Youth Drug Court
- Youth Group Home
- Detention Home
- Juvenile Court Judge
- CSA
- Colonial Heights Office on Youth



# VDSS Go Team Experience

Have we tried that?

---

Documentation summary provided prior to meeting

---

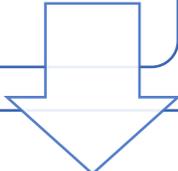
Assessment of all exhausted efforts

---

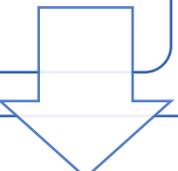
Connections & Recommendation

# Feedback on the Experience

It was helpful leaving the meeting with names of staff in other agencies to follow-up with

A blue-outlined downward-pointing arrow connects the first text box to the second.

Assume relative placement options and foster homes have been exhausted

A blue-outlined downward-pointing arrow connects the second text box to the third.

Keep meetings actionable on next steps to explore

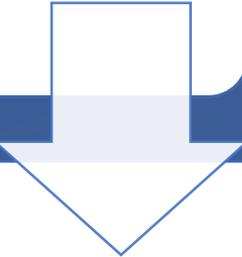
# Local Rapid Response Team

# Local Response

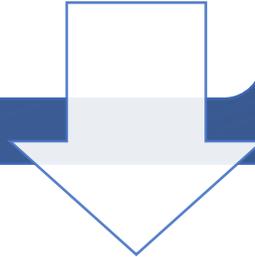


# Local Rapid Response Team

Case summary and placement attempts were sent to participants in advance of the meeting



Began with update from current placement



Discussed how to leverage upcoming court hearing

# Role of Leadership: Supervisor Perspective

- Ongoing Communication to Leadership
- Support for higher level collaboration

# Supervisor Perspective

- See the Smoke
- Fully understand the need
- Support the Staff
- Communicate and collaborate about the plan
- Role-Model
- Acknowledge secondary trauma
- Communicate UP

# Role of Leadership: Assistant Director Perspective

# Assistant Director Perspective

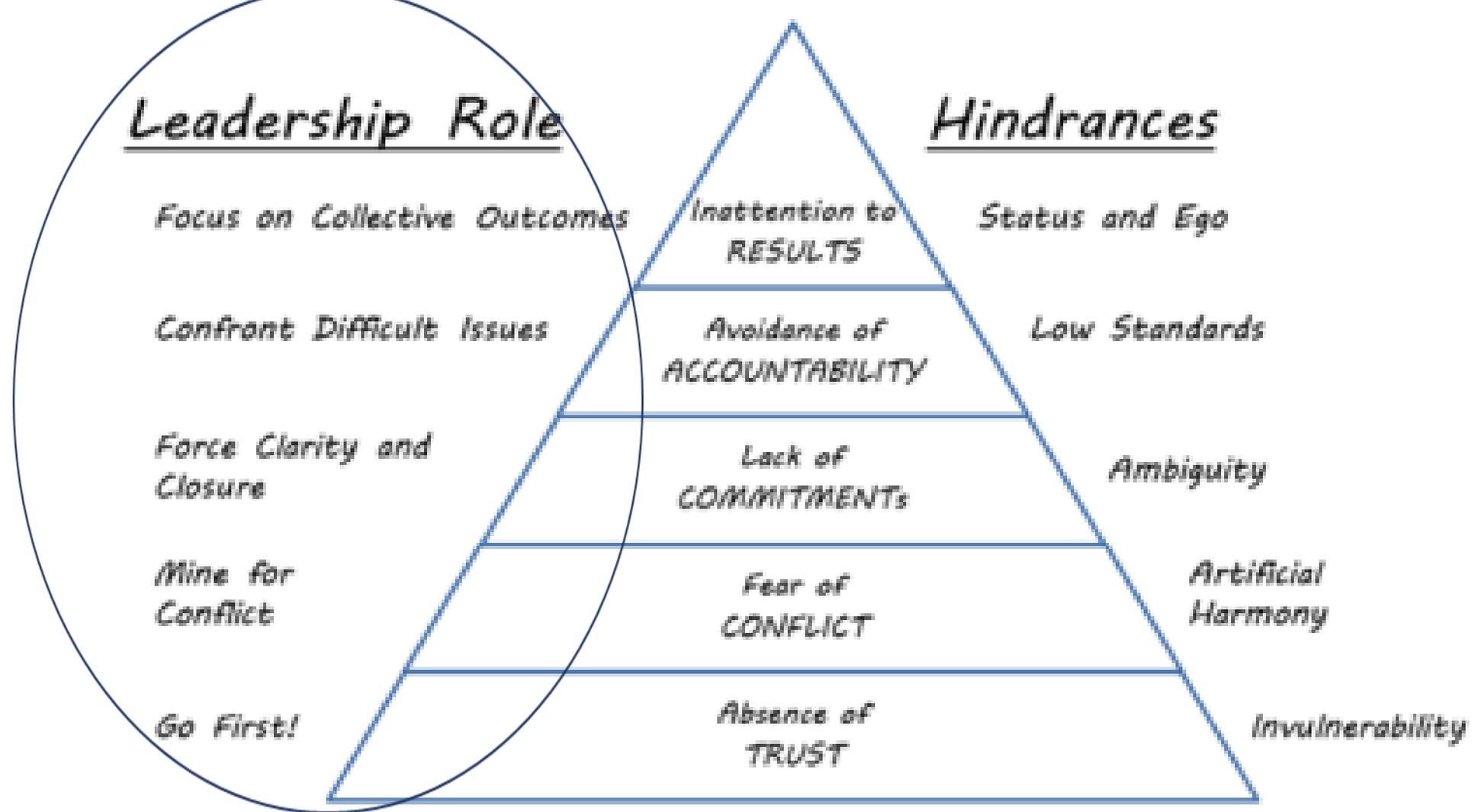
- Stay on the balcony
- Make big-picture observations
- Remain solution-focused
- Think outside the box
- Mobilize supports



# Role of Leadership: Director Perspective

*“Always remember that leadership is a privilege. When you’re in a leadership role, your influence may affect the trajectories of people’s entire career (and, often, their lives!).”*

*- unknown*



Leadership Perspective: Director

Wrap Up: Things to consider when replicating

## Lessons Learned

- Continue to plan after the crisis is over
- Establish a community team that includes local and state partners. CSA is a key player
- Establish an internal DSS all hands-on deck team
- Establish communication plan for all levels
- Identify training and education needs of staff and community partners
- Establish roles and responsibilities
- Incorporate debriefing and ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness

Questions?